

Liberal Studies Review Committee
Wednesday, October 2, 2013
10:00 a.m. ED 200

Members Present: Kim Morin, Nan Barker, Janell Morillo, Rajee Amarasinghe, Paul Crosbie, Susan Macy, James Mullooly, Lindsey Fidler, Susan Schlievert, Susan Macy, Elisa Jamgochian, Tim Hamel

Guests: Jessica Choy, Johnny Conley

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am.

Approval of the Minutes

Minutes for 9/18/13 were approved.

Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved with no additions

Continued Business

- The committee discussed evaluating the 14 Liberal Studies program concentrations and determining their feasibility.
- Nan Barker shared her review of the Physical Education concentration and gave the committee a handout outlining Course Work for Supplementary Authorization in P.E. (attached).
- Discussion of whether the P.E. concentration should go towards a supplementary authorization which requires additional units from the required 12 to 34 and whether the Liberal Studies program should only offer concentrations which lead to that supplemental authorization.
- Paul Crosbie said that most of the Science classes are offered regularly but those like Bio 110, which hasn't been offered in five years, should be dropped from the concentration list. Another issue is that three of the upper division G.E. Math/Science classes are capped at a 30 student enrollment so aren't always accessible.
- Jim Mullooly suggested that dropping concentrations should be based on two criteria: that they are known by advisors to be difficult to complete and the number of students who are enrolled. He added that there is a huge disparity in the number of options they can take.
- Committee discussed that the list of concentrations has been intact for many years and is overdue to be reassessed and updated. In an exit survey taken over the past three years, 8 of the 14 concentrations had less than 13 students who graduated with that concentration. The committee suggested sending a letter to these concentration areas inquiring whether they are still willing to offer these options and whether they are willing to update the outdated list. The concentrations of Honors and STEM will be exempt from elimination. The list of graduating students for concentrations are listed below with the 8 concentrations with the lowest graduation rate in yellow.

Liberal Studies Concentration Summary (July 1-June 30 Academic Year)			
<i>Concentration Area Completed</i>	<i># of Students</i>		
	2012- 2013	2011- 2012	2010- 2011
Child & Family Science	98	104	85
BCLAD	52	49	39
Math	35	28	32
Social Institutions & Processes	25	20	16
Children & the Arts	21	22	30
World History & American Studies	13	11	15
English: Literature Option	7	4	15
English: Creative Writing Option	5	4	1
Art	5	4	4
Science	5	5	7
Teaching the English Language Learner	3	2	3
Physical Education	2	2	1
Honors	1	0	1
Music	0	2	2
Total=	272	257	251

- Committee suggested asking Ann Burkholder to create a list of courses tagged for majors in individual departments but thought that was too extensive. The possibility of doing that in each individual department was also considered. Janell suggested that she and Kim Morin craft a memo to low enrollment concentration departments informing them:
 1. Their concentration was under review and asking for a description of the concentration if still valid
 2. In addition to their lead-in course, have them identify 9 units of courses that are offered at least every semester and are open to Liberal Studies Program students

Kim and Janell will draft that memo and have it for review at the next LSRC meeting which will be Oct. 16 at 10am--Meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am.